Literary Elements Vocabulary List

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| **Alliteration** | **Repetition of the same sound at the beginning of two or more words that are next to each other or near each other.**  *Example: DiAria’s dog damaged the dainty dinosaur statue.* |
| **Climax** | **The high point of a story. It is followed by an ending called a resolution.**  *Example: Do you think the climax of* The Night Tourist *is when Jack meets his mom?* |
| **Hyperbole** | **A deliberate exaggeration used as a figure of speech.**  *Example: The room was so messy; it looked like a herd of elephants ran through it.* |
| **Metaphor** | **A comparison of two different things to show a likeness between them that does not use like or as.**  *Example: Belinda was an angel in class today.* |
| **Onomatopoeia** | **Words that are invented to imitate real sounds.**  *Example:* ***Grrrrrr!*** *I am so mad! I want to* ***bang, smash,*** *and* ***rip*** *everything I can!* |
| **Personification** | **Attributing to (giving) things that are not human the personalities and actions of humans.**  *Example: Fear grabbed the victim in its icy clutches.* |
| **Point of View** | **The way the author allows you to "see" and "hear" what's going on.**  *Example: Many books are written from the point of view of the main character.* |
| **Setting** | **The time and place in which a story, poem, or play takes place. A setting can be a forest, a house, a city, the present, the past, the future, etc.**  *Example: The setting of The Island of the Blue Dolphins is a coastal island off California.* |
| **Simile** | **A figure of speech that compares two unlike things using “like” or “as.”**  *Example: Belinda looked like an angel today.* |
| **Theme** | **An author’s message that can be applied to real life.**  *Example: It’s never a good idea to lie to someone even if you think you have a good reason.* |